

LANCASTER COUNTY REENTRY COALITION

2021 – 2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

Vision Statement: Lancaster County will welcome reentrants and provide them with every opportunity for success.

Every stakeholder in the Lancaster County Reentry Coalition contributes to this vision. Our vision is bold and focuses on reentrants, all of whom should be able to return home permanently from federal, state and local facilities, and have the opportunity to succeed. We realize that success can look different for each individual and we strive to empower all to achieve positive outcomes for their lives and the lives of those they touch. This vision is at the forefront of our minds as we set about the daily work of reentry.

Mission Statement: Lancaster County Reentry Coalition serves to cultivate community engagement, collaboration and capacity building to ensure that all reentrants have the opportunity to successfully reenter their communities.

Every stakeholder in the Lancaster County Reentry Coalition contributes to this mission. The mission will guide the Coalition until the vision is achieved. The mission includes a role for each of the Coalition's stakeholders - some are positioned to open doors and create opportunities while others are positioned to remove barriers. Each has an equally important role.

Values:

- ❖ **Diversity/Equity:** It is central to our mission to ensure that each individual returning to our communities has full opportunity to thrive in their environment. We recognize that each person has a history that shapes perception and behaviors. We value the innate worth and unique character of each person. We believe that people are capable of change and success when given the right tools and opportunities that match their needs and abilities. We believe that success is individually defined when the person accomplishes what they aim or purpose to do. We commit to work actively to challenge and respond to biases and discrimination as well as building an environment of respect and dignity.
- ❖ **Hope:** It is through hope that people are motivated to change. It is with hope that all things are possible for the individual, the community, the nation and the world. Hope inspires, hope leads, hope challenges, hope leaves the past behind and hope is the force behind change.
- ❖ **Collaboration:** We recognize that in order to facilitate change we all need to come together as a community and use all resources available. We believe that working together creates opportunities and achieves solutions that otherwise could not happen. We respect contributions of all people, organizations, faith communities, businesses and other entities and value the diversity of the group.
- ❖ **Innovation:** We recognize that to be effective we need to always be seeking out new ideas and methods to meet the current and sometimes changing needs of the individuals and community we are serving.

Who We Are

The Lancaster County Reentry Coalition (LCRC) is a robust, diverse and growing collaborative of stakeholders united by a shared vision and engaged in a shared mission. Each stakeholder has a unique and important role yet is committed to collectively implementing this shared plan to ensure successful reentry opportunities exist for every reentrant returning to their communities from jail or prison.

What We Do

The barriers and collateral consequences faced by individuals returning to our communities are many, the services and resources meant to support them in overcoming those barriers are often in siloes, and no single agency can address every need of every returning citizen. The Coalition brings reentry partners together to increase collaboration, reduce duplication, align existing efforts and strengthen stakeholders' capacity to improve their own work with reentrants. The Coalition also creates a permanent space to ensure perpetual communication among participating organizations, even though administration, structural, and personnel changes. Together, we work towards our vision that Lancaster county will welcome every Reentrant and provide them with every opportunity for success

Coalition Purpose

Identify gaps to successful reentry and remove obstacles that impede an individual's ability to be a prosocial member of society.

Educate the public about how involvement in the criminal justice system impacts the individual and family, including the collateral consequences for the community.

Reduce the stigma experienced by returning individuals by increasing awareness of social bias and cultural stereotypes.

Motivate community members to become involved in the coalition in order to create positive change for reentrants and their families which impacts society as a whole.

Priorities

Identify Gaps to Successful Reentry

- **Incorporate** processes of gap identification into each impact group work plan

Reduce Obstacles to Successful Reentry

- **Develop** strategies that address obstacles in identified key areas such as housing, employment, mental health, recovery, family, and prosocial activities

Educate the Public on Reentry Issues

- **Use** resources such as email, social media, and the coalition website to post educational information about reentry topics.
- **Present** information on reentry topics in public forums

Provide Resources

- **Respond** to requests for information about our coalition and area reentry services
- **Collect and distribute** Bags of Love to reentrants in need of basic items

Advocate for Change

- **Attend** Pennsylvania Reentry Coalition (PARC) meetings
- **Participate** on PARC sub-committees
- **Support** initiatives that address identifiable gaps and obstacles

Collaborate

- **Coordinate** efforts with other Lancaster County Coalitions and government agencies that service the success of reentrants.